

DAE



PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)

Docket Number (Optional)
VR2-002

First named inventor: Dirk VAN DIJK

Application No.: 09/171,910

Art Unit: 1772

Filed: 03/18/1999

Examiner: CHEVALIER, Alicia Ann

Title: Plastic-Based Composite Product and Method and Apparatus for Manufacturing Same

Attention: Office of Petitions

Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX: (703) 872-9306

RECEIVED

SEP 02 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (703) 305-9282.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the Office notice or action plus any extensions of time actually obtained.

APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION

NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items:

- (1) Petition fee;
- (2) Reply and/or issue fee;
- (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee -- required for all utility and plant applications filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and
- (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional.

1. Petition fee

☒ Small entity - fee \$665 (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ Other than small entity - fee \$_____ (37 CFR 1.17(m))

2. Reply and/or fee

A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in the form of _____ (identify type of reply):

- ☐ has been filed previously on _____.
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

B. The issue fee of \$ 674

- ☒ has been paid previously on May 7, 2004.
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.137. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

08/31/2004 HRLI11 00000035 09171910 665.00 0P 01 FC:2453

3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee

☒ Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.

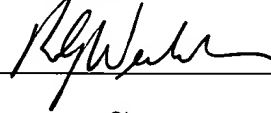
☐ A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$_____ for a small entity or \$_____ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).

4. Statement. The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE: The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D))].

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August 18, 2004

Date



Signature

Telephone

Number: (404) 815-3593

Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Typed or printed name

1230 Peachtree St NE, Ste 3100, Promenade II

Address

Atlanta, GA 30309-3592

Address

Enclosures: ☒ Fee Payment

☐ Reply

☐ Terminal Disclaimer Form

☐ Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay

☒ Other : Copy of Notice Regarding Improper Request for Continued Examination

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(A)]

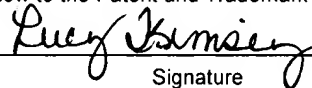
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **Mail Stop Petition**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 872-9306.

August 25, 2004

Date



Signature

Lucy Kimsey

Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

<h1 style="margin: 0;">FEE TRANSMITTAL</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">for FY 2004</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</p>		<p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">Complete if Known</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">RECEIVED</div>	
		Application Number	09/171,910
		Filing Date	03/18/1999 SEP 02 2004
		First Named Inventor	VAN DIJK, Dirk
		Examiner Name	CHEVALIER, Aida OFFICE OF PETITIONS
		Art Unit	1772
		Attorney Docket No.	VR2-002
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27			
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)		665	

<p>METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> None </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number: </p> <p>Deposit Account Name: </p> <p>The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below <input type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments <input type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application <input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account. </p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> </div>	<p>FEE CALCULATION (continued)</p> <p>3. ADDITIONAL FEES</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Large Entity</th> <th colspan="2">Small Entity</th> <th rowspan="2">Fee Description</th> <th rowspan="2">Fee Paid</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> <th>Fee Code</th> <th>Fee (\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1051</td> <td>130</td> <td>2051</td> <td>65</td> <td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1052</td> <td>50</td> <td>2052</td> <td>25</td> <td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>1053</td> <td>130</td> <td>Non-English specification</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>1812</td> <td>2,520</td> <td>For filing a request for reexamination</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>1804</td> <td>920*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>1805</td> <td>1,840*</td> <td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1251</td> <td>110</td> <td>2251</td> <td>55</td> <td>Extension for reply within first month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1252</td> <td>420</td> <td>2252</td> <td>210</td> <td>Extension for reply within second month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1253</td> <td>950</td> <td>2253</td> <td>475</td> <td>Extension for reply within third month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1254</td> <td>1,480</td> <td>2254</td> <td>740</td> <td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1255</td> <td>2,010</td> <td>2255</td> <td>1,005</td> <td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1401</td> <td>330</td> <td>2401</td> <td>165</td> <td>Notice of Appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1402</td> <td>330</td> <td>2402</td> <td>165</td> <td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1403</td> <td>290</td> <td>2403</td> <td>145</td> <td>Request for oral hearing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>1451</td> <td>1,510</td> <td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1452</td> <td>110</td> <td>2452</td> <td>55</td> <td>Petition to revive - unavoidable</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1453</td> <td>1,330</td> <td>2453</td> <td>665</td> <td>Petition to revive - unintentional</td> <td>665</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1501</td> <td>1,330</td> <td>2501</td> <td>665</td> <td>Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1502</td> <td>480</td> <td>2502</td> <td>240</td> <td>Design issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1503</td> <td>640</td> <td>2503</td> <td>320</td> <td>Plant issue fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1460</td> <td>130</td> <td>1460</td> <td>130</td> <td>Petitions to the Commissioner</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1807</td> <td>50</td> <td>1807</td> <td>50</td> <td>Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1806</td> <td>180</td> <td>1806</td> <td>180</td> <td>Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>8021</td> <td>40</td> <td>8021</td> <td>40</td> <td>Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1809</td> <td>770</td> <td>2809</td> <td>385</td> <td>Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1810</td> <td>770</td> <td>2810</td> <td>385</td> <td>For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1801</td> <td>770</td> <td>2801</td> <td>385</td> <td>Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1802</td> <td>900</td> <td>1802</td> <td>900</td> <td>Request for expedited examination of a design application</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Other fee (specify) _____</p> <p>*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 665</p>	Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath		1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.		1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification		1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination		1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action		1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action		1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month		1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month		1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month		1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month		1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month		1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal		1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal		1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing		1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding		1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable		1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	665	1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)		1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee		1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee		1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner		1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)		1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt		8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)		1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))		1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))		1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)		1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
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SUBMITTED BY				Complete (if applicable)	
Name (Print/Type)	Robert G. Weilacher	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	20,531	Telephone	(404) 815-3593
Signature				Date	August 18, 2004

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP
SUITE 3100, PROMENADE II
1230 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.
ATLANTA, GA 30309-3592

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JUL 26 2004

In re Application of : **OFFICE OF PETITIONS**
Van Dijk et al. :
Application No. 09/171,910 : NOTICE REGARDING
International Filing Date: : IMPROPER REQUEST
April 27, 1995 : FOR CONTINUED
371 Date: March 18, 1999 : EXAMINATION (RCE)
Title of Invention: PLASTIC-BASED :
COMPOSITE PRODUCT AND METHOD AND :
APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING SAME :

Background:

Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 on July 11, 2002 in the above-identified application, which is the National Stage of an International Application filed on April 27, 1995. The RCE was improper because the provisions of 37 CFR 1.114 do not apply to an international application filed under 35 U.S.C. 363 before June 8, 1995. See 37 CFR 1.114(e)(3).

A request for continued examination is not a type of new application filing. See Request for Continued Examination Practice and Changes to Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092, 50097 (August 16, 2000). The Office cannot convert an improper RCE to an application, such as a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or (d). An improper RCE will not operate to toll the running of any time period set in the previous Office action for reply to avoid abandonment of the application. See Manual for Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) 706.07(h), page 700-70, subsection III.A., "Treatment of Improper RCE", (8th Ed. 2001).

In the instant case, a final Office action was mailed on March 14, 2002. Under 35 U.S.C. § 133, an applicant has six (6) months to reply to an Office action. Upon failure to prosecute the application within six months of notice of the Office action, the application shall be regarded as abandoned. This statutory requirement may not be waived by the Office. The filing of the improper RCE on July 11, 2002 did not toll the time period set forth in the Office action mailed on March 14, 2002. Thus, the application became **abandoned on September 17, 2002** for

the failure to reply to the Office action mailed on March 14, 2002.

The Office, however, mistakenly treated the improper RCE as a proper RCE and reopened the prosecution of the application. A non-final Office action was mailed on October 4, 2002. An Amendment was filed on January 6, 2003. A final Office action was mailed on March 25, 2003. A Notice of Appeal and an Amendment, along with an extension of time were filed on September 26, 2003. An Advisory Action was mailed on October 28, 2003. A second improper RCE was filed on November 24, 2003. A Notice of Allowance and Notice of Allowability were mailed on February 9, 2004 and February 11, 2004 respectively. The Office regrets the delay in notifying Applicant of this error.

Applicants may file a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) to revive the application, accompanied by the payment of issue fee within **two (2) months from the date of this Notice. This time period may not be extended.** Applicant may request a refund of the RCE fees.

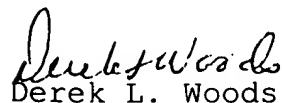
Any petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By FAX: (703) 872-9306
Attn: Office of Petitions

By hand: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Petition
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-0014.



Derek L. Woods
Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions